

Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Board December 3, 2019 Meeting

The Economic Development Advisory Board met for a regular meeting on December 3, 2019 at 3:30 P.M. in the Veterans Room at the Memorial Hall. Those present included:

Board Members

Jim Correll
Tony Royse
Lori Kelly
Jason Curtis
Paul Yaroslaski
Chuck Goad
Wayne Stephany
Lisa Wilson – Ex-Officio
Tabatha Snodgrass – Ex-Officio
Trisha Purdon – Ex-Officio

City Staff

Jeff Chubb, City Attorney
Kelly Passauer, Assistant City Manager/Zoning Administrator

Visitors

Dean Hayse
Jon Risner

I. REGULAR SESSION

- A. Call to Order
- B. Orientation by City Attorney Jeff Chubb

City Attorney Chubb reviewed the following items with the Board.

- 1. Responsibilities
 - a. *"Recommend and review on an ongoing basis the city's economic development policies which may pertain to but are not limited to preparation of an economic development strategy, a policy on providing ad valorem tax abatement, granting economic development incentives as permitted by law, establish guidelines for considering the above requests, and study other economic development concerns as determined by the board or requested by the city commission."*
- 2. Code of Ethics
- 3. Kansas Open Meetings Act
- 4. Questions for the City Attorney.

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City Attorney Chubb reviewed the rules regarding executive sessions pertaining to trade secrets.

II. ORGANIZATION

A. Election of officers

1. Election of Chair

Lori Kelly nominated Chuck Goad, seconded by Tony Royse. The motion carried 7-0.

2. Election of Vice Chair

Chuck Goad nominated Wayne Stephany, seconded by Lori Kelly. The motion carried 7-0.

3. Election of Secretary

Tony Royse nominated himself, Wayne Stephany seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

B. Consider modifying future meeting date and time.

1. *"The economic development advisory board shall meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. or more frequently as called by the chairman, the majority of the board or as requested by the mayor."*

Lori Kelly moved to change the meeting time to the first Tuesday of the month at 3:30 PM, Wayne Stephany seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Open items/brainstorming.

Chuck Goad asked Kelly Passauer to send the Indy Brew Works proposal that was brought before the Commission to the group and invite Finance Director Lacey Lies to the next meeting. He stated that the policy this Board develops should be structured so that it is fair to everyone but, gives the Commission flexibility for different types of entities. He also asked if Lacey could bring the Economic Development/Transportation Fund budget and the financial information for that fund for the last three years.

Tony Royse asked if Lacey could provide information on franchise fees, what percentage does the City receive from each utility, the total amount received from franchise fees and which Funds those fees are received. He also would like to get

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copies of the Quarterly Treasurer's Report, Sales Tax Report and copies of the current franchise agreements.

Chuck Goad would like to know what the process is for starting a new business in town and the level of customer service at City Hall.

Kelly Passauer briefly went through the new development process and noted that David Cowan could come to the next meeting and review the whole process with the Board.

Tony Royse noted that other incentives could include expanding the neighborhood revitalization from five to ten years or waiving utility fees for the first six months they are in operation.

There was additional discussion on ways of protecting the taxpayer's money and encouraging business growth in Independence.

Kelly Passauer would send each Board member a copy of the Community Based Strategic Plan.

It was discussed about how much money the City is willing to invest in all this.

A new discussion centered around the Indy Brew Works incentive that was voted down by the Commission at an earlier meeting and how the Board would like to see that honored without an Economic Development Policy in place.

Kelly Passauer was asked to provide the Grant Agreement for Labette Health to the Board members.

Chuck Goad noted that when the Board is developing this policy they should deal with broad parameters or guidelines and possibly giving the City Manager some powers for smaller incentives.

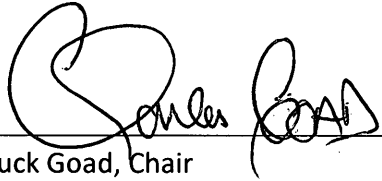
Wayne Stephany would like to add policies for existing businesses to help them grow as well.

Tabatha Snodgrass and Chuck Goad would like to see policies for help with succession planning for business owners about to retire to keep the business here.

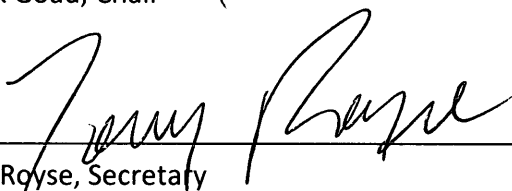
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Wayne Stephany moved to adjourn; Jason Curtis seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

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Chuck Goad, Chair



Tony Royse, Secretary